(a) whether Shipping Corporation of India propose to buy oil tankers from abroad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has proposal to acquire 6 Crude Oil Tankers and 6 Product Tankers at an investment of US$ 410 million during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

For acquisition of ships, global tenders are floated by SCI and the orders are placed on the shipyard whose offer is found to be most competitive, after obtaining approval of the competent authority.

[Translation]

Non Implementation of Reservation Policy

2946. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no officer belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other backward classes and other minorities among the officers of Oil India Limited, Assam;

(b) if so, whether reservation policy is not being implemented in Oil India Limited;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which this policy is likely to be implemented therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R BAALU) : (a) There are officers belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, other backward classes and other minorities among the officers of Oil India Limited, Assam. Their Strength as on 30th June, 1997 is as under :-

SC	:	76
ST	:	58
OBC	:	19
Minority	:	91

(b) to (d) The Reservation Policy for SC/ST and OBC in Oil India Limited is being implemented as per the Government instructions.

Distribution of Publication in I.A. Flights

2947. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the arrangement for the Publication and distributio of 'Swagat' and 'Namaskar' Magazines in the flights of Indian Airlines;

(b) the reasons for handing over this job to the private company when the distibution and publication of these magazines are possible by the Government department; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for transferring these magazines from the private party to the Government department in the public interests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) Indian Airlines entered into a contract with M/s Media Transasia in April 1994 for printing and supply of 60000 copies of Swagat every month free of cost. In addition the publishers are paying Indian Airlines a sum of Rs. 8.75 lakhs every month as 'contract fee'. The contract with M/s. Media Transasia is valid for a period of 5 years from June 1994 to May 1999.

(b) Prior to awarding the contract, Indian Airlines had invited quotations from leading publishers. The contract was awarded to M/s Media Transasia on the basis of their competitive quote.

(c) Since the contract is valid till May, 1999 and the arrangements with the publisher are working to the satisfaction of Indian Airlines, the need for handing over the responsibility to any other agency has not been felt. Namaskar is the magazine of Air India, Not Indian Airlines.

Conservation of Petrol and Petroleum Products

2948. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of demand of petrol and petroleum products met from the indigenous production during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the percentage of demand to be met during the next three years from the indigenous sources; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to conserve petrol and petroleum products keeping in view the ever increasing import bill and to fulfil the requirement of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The percentage of demand of petrol and petroleum

products met from the indigenous production during the last three years, yearwise is as follows :-

Year	Petrol	Percentage Pet. Products
1994-95	Full	82.1
1995-96	95.3	77.7
1996-97	94.5	78.4

(b) Based on materialisation of refining capacity as planned, percentage of demand of petrol and petroleum products expected to be met during next three years from indigenous sources is as under :-

Year	Petrol	Percentage Pet. Products
1998-99	86.2	68.4
1999-00	87.4	69.3
2000-01	Full	84.9

(c) Government has taken various steps to conserve petrol and petroleum products by encouraging adoption of various conservation measures to avoid wasteful usage and improve efficiency of utilisation. Various promotional activities undertaken include multi-media mass awareness compaign, promotion of measures to curb wasteful practices and improve the oil use efficiency of equipment devices and vehicles, conducing energy audits and fuel oil utilisation studies, organising training programmes for drivers, model depot projects, demonstration clinics/ workshops/exhibitions/consumer meets, sponsoring research and development activities for improving oil use efficiency in various end uses. To contain oil import bill, steps are being taken to increase refinery capacity by expanstion of existing refineries in public sector and setting up of refineries in joint sector and private sector. Import and parallel marketing of Kerosene, LPG and LSHS in private sector has also been allowed so as to improve availability of these products. Steps are also being taken to increase crude oil production in country through application of improved technologies, development of new fields, additional development of existing fields and by inviting foreign and private capital in the upstream sector.

[English]

Opening of LPG Agency

2949. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any demand for opening of LPG agencies in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their proposed locations; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard and the time by which these LPG agencies are likely to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A request has been recently received from the Hon'ble Member for opening of LPG distributorships at Jaisalmer city. Barmer city, Pokaran and Pachpadra in Rajasthan.

(c) The locations Pokaran and Pachpadra are proposed to be included in the Marketing Plan immediately. Survey for establishing viability of other two locations has been ordered. The selection for distributors is to be made by Dealer Selection Board after it is advertised. It takes around one year for commissioning of a distributorship after the distributor is selected.

[Translation]

Pending Proposals

2950. DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals of Uttar Pradesh Government relating to construction of stadia and sports training centres in the State are pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the grants proposed to be provided and the Government's stand thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation Centre for War Widows

2951. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rehabilitation centres set up in the country for the war widows alongwith the places where these centres have been set up State-wise;